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[Whole No. 292.]

MISCELLANY.

Reported for the Public Ledger.

NAVAL GENERAL COURT MARTIAL, AT PHILADELPHIA. TRIAL OF COMMODORE ELLIOTT.

MONDAY, June 8.—The court met at ten o'clock, pursuant to its adjournment of Saturday. Present all its members, the Judge Advocate, and Com. Elliott. The proceedings of Saturday were read by the Judge Advocate.

Mr. Dallas, on behalf of the accused, offered a memorandum of the time of the receipt of the affidavits by the farmer at Mahon, together with a bill and receipt for their keep, in the Spanish language, which were interpreted by Capt. Conner, a member of the court, marked and annexed to the record. A paper was offered, read, and also annexed to the record, from the accused, stating that he had, since the adjournment of the court on Saturday, accomplished a journey of 120 miles, in order to procure the papers alluded to above.

A paper dated the 14th December, 1837, being the letter of the crew of Com. Elliott, requesting that he will accept the service of plate that they had purchased to present him with, as a token of the regard which they entertain for him, was read and annexed to the record. It is signed by several of the crew, expressing the kindest feelings towards Com. Elliott, and concludes by wishing him many years of health and happiness.

Some two or three other letters and orders of the department were marked and annexed to the record, without reading; also the letter of instructions of Com. Elliott to the department from Hampton Roads; lists of the men re-entered for the cruise of the Constitution; as well those who entered before the passage of the law of the 3d of March on that subject, as those who entered after.

The Judge Advocate then offered in evidence three letters from Com. Elliott to Capt. Boerum, numbered 111, 112, and 113 of the court inquiry, which was objected to by Mr. Dallas, as opening a new and wide field of evidence. Whereupon the court was ordered to be closed, when after a time it was again opened, and the Judge Advocate announced as its decision that letters numbered 111 and 112 should be read in evidence, but that number 113 was liable to the exceptions taken to it by Mr. Dallas, and could not be offered. [The letters we understood were private correspondence, and not official documents; but not being publicly read, we are unable to state their substance.]

The Judge Advocate then offered to read in evidence a part of the testimony given before the court of inquiry by Nicholas Steenbow, who has also testified in the present case, with the view of showing that he now contradicts what he then stated, relative to the whipping of the crew by Lieut. Bullus. To this Mr. Dallas, for the accused, objected, as the evidence offered to be read did not contradict or materially vary from that given in on the present trial; and that if it did, opportunity should be afforded the witness, who is absent, to explain. Upon this objection the court was again ordered to be cleared; when after half an hour's deliberation it was opened, and its decision announced by the Judge Advocate in the affirmative, and the evidence of the witness given before the court of inquiry accordingly read, and annexed to the record.

The Judge Advocate also offered to read in evidence a part of the testimony of J. E. Dow, given before the

court of inquiry. Mr. Dallas said he did not object to the reading of the evidence of Mr. Dow, but he objected to the reading of the proceedings of the court, to which the Judge Advocate assented.

The appointment and order of Secretary Woodbury to Com. Elliott to take command of the Constitution was read and annexed to the record, dated the 4th of February, 1835.

An official document, dated June 4, 1834, from the Navy Department to Com. Woolsey, was offered to be read in evidence by the Judge Advocate; but upon being interrogated by Mr. Dallas as to whether he meant to prove that it had been communicated to Com. Elliott, and answering in the negative, Mr. Dallas said that he should then object to it as illegal evidence. The court was then cleared, and after some time spent in deliberation, was opened, and its decision announced by the Judge Advocate against the admission of the letter in evidence.

It was then shown that Nicholas Steenbow re-shipped on the 12th of December, as boatswain's mate, and that his name was to the second subscription paper, raising money for plate to Com. Elliott, and not the first.

Midshipman Edward C. Anderson recalled by the Judge Advocate—Examined by Mr. Dallas.—I have not been in court hearing any of the evidence since I was myself examined.

[A question was here asked the witness as to whether, and how, he had come in possession of any evidence adduced upon this trial. Objection was made, and the court cleared. After deliberation it was opened, and its decision made known by the Judge Advocate, to the effect that the question could not be put and annexed as a preliminary one, though they did not mean to decide that it could not be put on the cross-examination. That was a question that they left for after consideration.]

Mr. Dallas then offered a paper asserting that this was the proper time to take exceptions to the witness, and to show that he had received such information upon the subject-matter of the trial as would disqualify him as a witness, and that if deferred to a cross-examination the object he had in view would be wholly defeated. The court was again cleared, and when opened the Judge Advocate stated that its former decision was unchanged.

By the Judge Advocate.—I saw Midshipman Wager at the time that he released Ennis. He was at that time, to the best of my recollection, perfectly sober—I mean by releasing Ennis, that he (Mr. Wager) struck a man by the name of Bush, who appeared to be among the foremost to injure him (Ennis.) This was after the hammocks had been piped down. I knew a man by the name of Harvey Barber; I think he was not on board at Hampton Roads.

Cross-examined by the accused.—I have no recollection of any of the evidence of this court having been communicated to me by any of the witnesses or other persons. I have read and heard remarks made upon the evidence, as reported in the Public Ledger, by my messmates. I have read the evidence from no other source than the public newspapers. I met Barber afterwards at Vera Cruz. I think, but I am not confident, that he there mentioned to me that he left the ship at Mahon—that he was with others transferred to the frigate United States, in which vessel he came home. He had formerly belonged to Com. Elliott's gig. I was aid at the time, and knew by that that he had left her. [After the witness had left the room, he returned into court, and stated that, upon reflection, he remembered to have conversed with Midshipman Jenkins as to his evidence.]

Midshipman Adam Hubley Jenkins recalled by the Judge Advocate.—I saw Midshipman Wager for a few moments, a short time after his return in the life-boat. I believe he had been landing the pilot. This was in the last dog-watch, from 6 to 8. I saw him again on the quarter-deck, a short time after 8 o'clock. He was perfectly sober at both times.

Lieut. Chas. G. Hunter recalled by the Judge Advocate.—I am acquainted with the general character of Thomas Wells for truth and veracity; it is bad. I would not believe him on his oath.

Cross-examined by the accused.—I have heard a number of officers speak of his veracity; almost all the officers in the Mediterranean squadron; I first heard the veracity of Mr. Wells questioned in the Mediterranean; I cannot recollect the date; I have heard his character discussed frequently, both on board the frigate United States and on shore; I have heard it discussed within the last few days; I heard no question raised before the court of inquiry as to the veracity of Mr. Wells; I believe I have heard his character discussed within the past few days by almost every officer in Philadelphia who knew him; I was present yesterday in a company of officers where his character was discussed; the officers were Mr. Johnston, Lt. Watson, Lt. Bullus, Lt. Darcantel, Lt. Colhoun, Capt. Boerum, Chaplain Lambert, Lt. Chauncey, Lt. Davis; I believe those were all; I met them at the house of the Judge Advocate; my object in assembling at the office of the Judge Advocate was to speak to that officer of the character of Mr. Wells; what the object of the others was I cannot tell; some of them came in whilst I was there; I do not think that any part of the evidence of Mr. Wells was communicated to any of the ten officers while at the office of the Judge Advocate; I went to them with Lt. Johnston; I was requested by the Judge Advocate to bring or send Mr. Johnston round if I saw him when he arrived; this was in the evening; in the morning I was also at Mr. Read's; I then went alone; I had last summer communicated to the Judge Advocate my ideas of the character of Mr. Wells, during the sitting of the court of inquiry; in the morning I was alone with the Judge Advocate; these ten officers were not all there at the same time in the morning; in the evening when I went I found Mr. Bullus there; in the course of the evening several others came in, but I do not now recollect whether they came in singly or in groups; I do not think there were ten officers there at any one time; I saw them there during the day; in the evening there were five present as far as I can recollect, and I do not recollect to have seen there at any one time a greater number than that; it was then understood, at least by me, that the character of Mr. Wells was to be impeached to-day; I never gave Mr. Wells notice that I would impeach his evidence; I do not speak to him; I have never sailed on board the same ship with Mr. Wells, but I have had a personal acquaintance with him—an acquaintance which commenced and ended in the Mediterranean, from a knowledge of his personal character.

I have, of my own knowledge, detected Mr. Wells in asserting what was not true; it was upon the occasion of my first trial on charges preferred by Com. Elliott, or immediately after the trial had terminated. Mr. Wells then came to me on the half deck of the United States, and told me that he regretted the circumstances very much—that he had done all in his power to prevent the commodore from trying me, and told him how wrong he was. I afterwards learned that at that very time he was urging the commodore to try me again; I heard this fact from a person of veracity at the time; at the time this was stated to me, my informant was not, that I know of, in controversy with Com. Elliott. The time that I heard this was between my two courts martial, as far as I can recollect, or immediately after. The person to whom I allude had not then a controversy with Com.

Elliott—he had one afterwards. Chaplain Lambert is the person who told me. I never spoke to Mr. Wells upon the subject, and consequently afforded him no opportunity to disprove it—I believed Mr. Lambert. Up to that time I had spoken to Mr. Wells, though I thought him a bad man. My opinion of Mr. Wells is formed, as I have before stated, from a knowledge of his general character. The occasion here recited is the only one which I recollect to have caught him in telling what was not true. The character of Mr. Wells was not the only topic of conversation of the officers assembled yesterday at the office of the Judge Advocate; but to my recollection we did not embrace in conversation other points of the evidence to which either of the ten officers was to bear testimony. I do not recollect the number, but several officers were willing to bear testimony as to the veracity of Mr. Wells—not all, however, I think, who were present. There was *not* one, I think, who declared that he knew nothing against the character of Mr. Wells.

The President of the court here asked the Judge Advocate if he had any farther evidence to offer, and intimated the determination of the court to hear all that was to be heard before adjournment.

Mr. Dallas then presented to the court, on behalf of the accused, a paper stating that it was altogether unknown to Com. Elliott that the character and veracity of Mr. Thomas Wells was to be assailed, and the evidence closed to-day, or he would have had those who know Mr. W. best here, ready to have met the accusation, or at least that he would have more determinedly resisted the hearing of the evidence of Lieut. Hunter and others. Mr. Wells's friends reside at Boston, and time was asked, in justice to the witness whose veracity had been attacked, to bring testimony here to sustain it. The court was cleared, and after half an hour's deliberation was opened, and its decision announced by the Judge Advocate. It was that the court would hear any evidence that was proper and legal from the accused, at the close of the rebutting evidence of the Judge Advocate.

The court adjourned to ten o'clock Tuesday morning, at which time the evidence will be resumed.

TUESDAY, June 9.—The court met pursuant to adjournment of yesterday. Present all its members, the Judge Advocate, and Com. Elliott. The proceedings of yesterday were read by the Judge Advocate.

Lt. Chas. G. Hunter came into court and asked to correct that part of his evidence of yesterday wherein he stated that Chaplain Lambert was one of the officers present at the office of the Judge Advocate on Saturday. "Upon reflection," he said, "I find that he was not among the officers whom I saw there."

Cross-examined by the accused.—I did not see Chaplain Lambert on Saturday. I think I met him on Saturday evening at the Judge Advocate's office—I do not recollect that any other was present at that time besides Lieut. Davis—in fact I do not recollect that even he was there. I had no particular object in meeting Chaplain Lambert at the time; I went to see the Judge Advocate. I do not recollect whether the veracity of Mr. Wells was a topic of discussion that night or not; it has been so often a topic of discussion that I cannot pretend to recollect the particular times. I cannot recollect any one topic of our conversation connected with this trial. I remained on Saturday evening at the Judge Advocate's about five minutes; on Sunday morning perhaps half an hour, and in the evening, as near as I can recollect, an hour—but having no watch, I cannot speak with any certainty. Since giving in my evidence yesterday, I have seen and conversed with Chaplain Lambert. I went to the Judge Advocate's alone on Sunday morning, and found him alone—other officers came in before I left, as I stated in my previous testimony. I did not go to the Judge Advocate's oftener than twice on Sunday—once in the morning and once

in the evening. I saw there in the morning Mr. Davis—Midshipman Jenkins, I believe, came in with him. Lt. Colhoun I think also came in. Lt. Watson may also have been there, but I cannot now recollect. I went to the Judge Advocate's on Sunday morning for the purpose of speaking to that officer as to the veracity of Mr. Wells. I introduced the subject, and it was discussed by me and the other officers present. I had spoken to the Judge Advocate several times during this trial as to the veracity of Mr. Wells—the particular times I cannot now recollect. I believe I knew, when I went to the Judge Advocate's on Saturday evening, and there met Chaplain Lambert, that the evidence for the defence had closed that morning; it made so little impression upon my mind that I cannot say whether I did or did not.

The Judge Advocate asked that the court might be cleared. After a few minutes' deliberation it was opened, and immediately adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10.—The Court met pursuant to adjournment of yesterday. Present, all its members, the Judge Advocate, and Com. Elliott. The proceedings of yesterday were read by the Judge Advocate; after which, in consequence of the indisposition of that officer, the Court was adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, JULY 11.—The Court met pursuant to adjournment of yesterday. Present all its members, the Judge Advocate and Com. Elliott. The proceedings of yesterday were read by the Judge Advocate.

Lieut. Charles W. Chauncey, recalled by the Judge Advocate. I know Thomas Wells's general character for truth and veracity. I would not believe him on his oath.

Cross examined by the Accused.—I have derived my knowledge of the general character of Mr. Wells from having sailed with him on two different vessels; the opinion I there formed of his character is bad; and from his having contradicted the evidence of Lt. Bullus before this Court, in reference to the second subscription for the service of plate. From my own knowledge of Mr. Wells, I have no opinion of his veracity. I have formed a bad opinion of the veracity of Mr. Wells, from his having contradicted what Lt. Bullus stated to me at the time, in regard to the second subscription list for the service of plate. I mean to say, that my opinion is partly formed on this circumstance, and from his general character. When I speak of his general character I speak of his character as to veracity—and of his bowing and cringing way that he has to those high in power. I have heard his character for veracity discussed many times, both in the Mediterranean on board the Constitution, and last year in Philadelphia by many officers, and by a great majority of the officers attending as witnesses upon this Court—by Lieutenants Hunter, McBlair, Johnston, Captain Boerum, Lt. Bullus—these I have heard say most upon the subject. Some of these officers are the same whom I heard speak of his character in the Mediterranean as well as here. The subject was frequently spoken of in the mess, by the majority of the mess. Two of the officers named spoke more frequently of it than the others—Capt. Boerum and Lt. Bullus. When I speak of the mess, I mean the ward-room mess of the Constitution. I do not mean to say, that Capt. Boerum messed there. The mess first began to discuss the veracity of Mr. Wells about the time the second subscription was going on, and a short time before I left the ship. I do not remember the exact time that I remained in the Constitution—probably about two months. During these two months his veracity was frequently discussed. I did not hear any impeachment of his veracity before the time which I have stated—it began in the ward-room mess. I rejoined the John Adams on leaving the Constitution. I do not recollect that the veracity of Mr. Wells was talked of on board the John Adams.

I first heard his veracity talked of after leaving the Constitution, before the Court of Inquiry in this city last summer. I do not remember whether I heard it then discussed by the same officers only, whom I had previously heard discuss it in the ward-room mess—I heard several officers speak of it last summer—cannot recollect all of them. I wish to be understood, that my opinion of Mr. Wells for veracity was formed at the time that I was on board the Constitution with him, and from his counter statement to Lt. Bullus, as detailed to me by Lieut. B. at the time—in reference to Mr. Wells' coming to him and asking him how he should get a subscription afloat. [Mr. Dallas here wished to know if a witness was to be permitted to give in answer to questions matter not contained in the question itself—whereupon the Court was cleared, and after some time spent in deliberation was opened, and the Judge Advocate announced as its decision, that the answer of the witness was entirely proper.]

The contradiction of Lt. Bullus by Mr. Wells and his general character for veracity is the reason for my discrediting his oath; I had frequently heard his veracity questioned before the statement of Lt. Bullus was contradicted, on board the Constitution and by the officers of the ward-room mess; some few days before the conversation between Lt. Bullus and myself; I do not remember the points upon which it was questioned at that time; I know of no particular instance of his cringing and bowing; I allude to his general bearing towards the captains of ships to which he has been attached; I do not remember that he cringed to Capt. Stringham, of the John Adams, particularly, except that he took especial pains to ingratiate himself in his favor; I think he cringed and bowed to Com. Elliott on board the Constitution; his manner so indicated, though I can give no particular instance. Since I was examined some weeks ago I had left the city and returned on Saturday last; I was apprised by a summons from the Judge Advocate that I would be again wanted before this Court; my summons, I believe, was dated the 4th of June; the character of Mr. Wells has been discussed generally by the officers since my return at different places; I have attended no preconcerted meeting; I met several persons at the Judge Advocate's on Sunday.

[The President of the Court here wished to know if it was the intention of the counsel of Com. Elliott to pursue the same course of examination with this witness that was pursued with Lieut. Hunter; Mr. Dallas replied by a written paper, that he had no objection to state frankly that it was his intention so to do—to show that there was a combination of officers formed against the witnesses offered on the part of the accused, who, by their prejudice, had determined to break down, as far as their evidence could do so, the veracity of the individual assailed. Whereupon the Court was cleared, which, after a time, was opened and its decision, as announced by the Judge Advocate, was, that having been advised of the determination on the part of the accused, it had determined that he might proceed if he thought proper.]

I have met several officers at the different public houses and at the office of the Judge Advocate, where the veracity of Mr. Wells was discussed; but these meetings at the Judge Advocate's were neither Sunday afternoon or evening; it was on Sunday morning; among the officers present were Captain Boerum, Lieuts. Hunter, Davis, Bullus, and Darcantel, and Midshipmen Anderson and Jenkins; some came in while I was there and some I found there; Capt. Boerum on that occasion accompanied me to the office of the Judge Advocate; I was then told that I would be examined with the view of impeaching the veracity of Mr. Wells; I was not at the office of the Judge Advocate on Saturday; I have met officers at the Union Hotel and Marshall House, where this matter was discussed; I had met none of these officers until I met them at the Judge Advocate's, ex-

cept Capt. Boerum who accompanied me there; I arrived late on Saturday night and went early the next morning to the Judge Advocate's; I first met Capt. Boerum on my return to the United States Hotel on Sunday morning; Capt. B. informed me that the Judge Advocate wished to see me when I arrived; I asked him if he knew the object of my being recalled; he told me that the Judge Advocate would inform me when he saw me; I mean to be understood that I did not know the object of my recall before going to the office of the Judge Advocate on Sunday morning; I did not see Lieut. Bullus in New York after I had received the summons of the Judge Advocate.

Lieut. Johnston, recalled by the Judge Advocate.—I am acquainted with the general character of Thomas Wells for truth and veracity; it is bad; I would not believe him on his oath.

Cross examined by the Accused.—His character for truth and veracity I got from his messmates in the Mediterranean; I first heard from several officers, during our cruise in the Mediterranean, that the character of Mr. Wells for veracity was bad; I was not an officer on board the Constitution; I was first lieut. of the frigate United States; I heard the veracity of Mr. Wells questioned very soon after he had joined the Constitution; I did not hear his veracity questioned while he was on board the John Adams; I then saw but very little of him, except upon one occasion, and that was in going from Beyrout to Balbec; his general character on board the Constitution was bad; there was one fact came under my observation that led me to believe that Mr. Wells was not a man to be relied on, and that was his violation of the commodore's confidence as his private secretary, in relation to a letter that Capt. Boerum had written the commodore relative to the Barton affair; he stated that the commodore was dissatisfied with the letter, and that Capt. Boerum had written for permission to return home, and that the commodore had refused him, but if he would renew his application he would grant his request, and give me command of the schooner; I asked him if the commodore intended that he should communicate this to me—he said no, and begged that I would say nothing about it; I then said that he was abusing the commodore's confidence, and that he must never approach me again with any such thing; that I always heard that "a dog that would fetch, would carry."

I am not certain that this is the first fact that induced me to question his veracity. He had about the same time mentioned a remark that the commodore had made respecting one of the officers of the squadron, which I presumed the commodore did not wish repeated, and I reproved him for that. The cases here cited are some of the reasons for my discrediting the veracity of Mr. Wells. They were either a breach of confidence, if the commodore had privately told him what he had stated; and if he had not so told him, he lied. These are all the facts relating to his veracity, that I know of my own knowledge. The general character of Mr. Wells, of which I have spoken, is confined to the officers of the squadron. I do not recollect how many of the officers I have heard speak disadvantageously of Mr. Wells—a great many of them, however. I have never heard any of the officers attached to the squadron, except those who have given evidence against Com. Elliott, or who have been summoned to do so, speak unfavorably of the veracity of Mr. Wells—I have not seen, however, but two others, and by them, I believe, the name of Mr. Wells was not mentioned. Mr. Wells' character for veracity in the Mediterranean was bad, generally; and I may there have heard those, other than have been summoned to give evidence, speak ill of the veracity of Mr. Wells. I cannot name a single officer of the Mediterranean, who has not been summoned here, who spoke ill of the veracity of Mr. Wells.

The Court adjourned to ten o'clock this (Friday) morning.

From the Old Dominion.

RISING AND SETTING OF THE MOON.

Originally prepared for the Naval Magazine, New York, March, 1837;—in the Mediterranean.

Solution to the Moon question, proposed by me, on p. 513, of the No. for September, 1837.

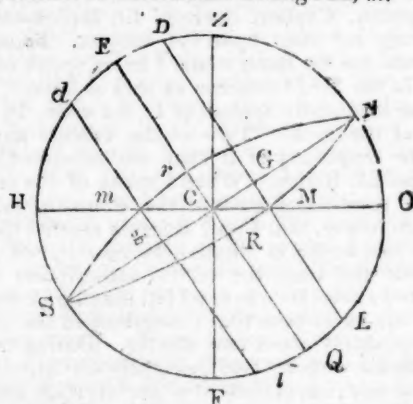
Question.—Required a rule for determining the time of the Rising or Setting of the Moon, at any given place and time, with the investigation;—the most correct and accurate possible?

SOLUTION.

Moon's Rising. RULE.—Find the longitude of that meridian which is 90° E. of the given place; and from the N. Almanac, find the Eastern time of the Moon's centre coming to that meridian. To this time, applying the longitude of that meridian, in time, by adding when W. or subtracting when E. find the reduced, or Greenwich time; and the moon's declination at this reduced time. Then to the log. tangent of the given latitude; the sum, rejecting ten in the index, will be the sine of the moon's ascensional difference; which turn into time. Now, if the latitude and moon's declination be of the same name, subtract the sum of six hours and this ascensional difference, from the Eastern time; but if they be of different names, subtract their difference; the remainder will be the time of the moon's rising that day, at the given place. If the Eastern time be less, increase it by twelve hours, and the remainder will be the time of the moon's rising, on the forenoon preceding that (astronomical) day.

Moon's Setting. RULE.—Find the longitude of that meridian which is 90° W. of the given place; and from the N. Almanac, find the Western time of the moon's centre coming to that meridian. To this time, applying the longitude of that meridian, in time, by adding when W. or subtracting when E. find the reduced, or Greenwich time; and the moon's declination, at this reduced time. Then to the log. tangent of the moon's declination, add the log. tangent of the given latitude; the sum, rejecting ten in the index, will be the sine of the moon's descensional difference; which turn into time. Now, if the latitude and moon's declination be of the same name, add the sum of six hours and this descensional difference, to the Western time; but if they be of different names, add their difference; the sum will be the time of the moon's setting that day, at the given place. If the sum exceed twenty-four hours, subtract twenty-four from it, and the remainder will be the time of the moon's setting on the ensuing (astronomical) day.

Demonstration.—Let Z be the zenith of the given place; HCO the rational horizon in the heavens; N the elevated (north) pole; S the depressed (south) pole; NZS a celestial meridian; ECQ the equinoctial; M, m, places of the moon in the horizon; NCS, NMS, NmS, meridians through C, M, m; DML, dml, parallels of declination through M, m.



Then NCS, ZCF, DML, ECQ, dml, HCO, are all circles on the surface of the sphere, whose planes cut that of NZS at right angles, and are seen here edge-

wise; and therefore appear to the eye as straight lines. C represents, occasionally, both the E . and W . points of the horizon. R and r mark the right ascensions or descensions of the moon, at M and m , respectively. The circle NCS is that called by astronomers, the six o'clock meridian, because it is six hours, or 90° distant, E . and W . from NZS . The arch RC is the moon's ascensional difference, at M , rising eastwards; and her descensional difference, setting westwards:—a similar remark applies to the arch rC , when the moon is at m . It may also be observed, that the arch MC , is equivalent to RC , both containing the same number of degrees, and being described in the same space of time; and that mg is equivalent to rC .

Now, in the spherical triangle MRC , right angled at R , we have MR —the moon's declination, and the angle MCR —the colatitude of the given place, to find RC . Hence, because RC is the middle part, $R \times \tan. RC = \tan. MR \times \cotan. MCR = \tan. MR \times \tan. MC$. $N = \tan. MR \times \tan. ZCE$; and therefore $s.RC = \tan. MR \times \tan. ZCE \div R$; which, in logarithms, may be expressed briefly thus:—

To the tan. of the moon's declin. add the tan. of the given latitude; the sum, rejecting ten in the index, will be the sine of the moon's ascensional or descensional difference. And when the moon is at m , the very same operation, (expressed in the same words,) will give, from the triangle mrc , the arch rC .

It is evident that M rises before R , and sets after it, by the arch RC ; and that, on the contrary, m rises after r , and sets before it, by the arch rC ; and that the quadrant EC is equivalent to six hours. Hence, the truth of the foregoing rules, is manifest. A few examples will illustrate these rules.

Example 1.—Required the time of the moon's rising at Acapulco, in latitude $16^\circ 55'$, N . and longitude $100^\circ 54'$, W . October 17, 1837, civil account?

By subtracting 90° , E . from $100^\circ 54'$, W . = $43.6m$, in time. And by N . Almanac, the moon passes Greenwich meridian, October 17, 1837, at $15h. 17.2m$, astronomical time. Her daily variation of passage = $55.1m$; whence $360^\circ : 10^\circ 54' :: 55.1m : 1.7m$, = the correction, which, added to the $15h. 17.2m$, gives the *Eastern* time, = $15h. 18.9m$. To this adding the lon. of the *Eastern* meridian, $43.6m$, because W . we obtain $16h. 02.5m$, = the reduced, or Greenwich time. Moon's declin. at red.

time, by N . Alm. = $N. 27^\circ 13' 03''$, $\tan. = 9.71125$
Lat. of Acapulco = $N. 16^\circ 55' 00''$, $\tan. = 9.43307$

Sine of moon's ascensional difference, = 9.19432
= $9^\circ 00'$, in time, $36m$.

Subtracting therefore $6h. 36m$, from the *Eastern* time, $15h. 19m$, there remain $8h. 43m$, $P. M.$ = the time of the moon's rising at Acapulco, October 17, 1837, civil account.

Example 2.—Required the time of the moon's rising at Philadelphia, in lat. $39^\circ 57'$, N . and lon. $75^\circ 09'$, W . November 30, 1837, civil account?

By subtracting $75^\circ 09'$, W . from $90^\circ E$. we find the lon. of *Eastern* meridian, = $14^\circ 51'$, E . = $59.4m$, in time. And by N . Almanac, the moon passes Greenwich meridian, November 30, 1837, at $2h. 12.8m$, astronomical time. Her daily variation of passage = $62m$; whence, $360^\circ : 14^\circ 51' :: 62m : 2.6m$, = the correction; which, subtracted from the $2h. 12.8m$, gives $2h. 10.2m$, = the *Eastern* time. From this, subtracting the lon. of the *Eastern* meridian, $59.4m$, because E . we obtain $1h. 10.8m$, = the reduced time. Moon's declination at reduced time, by

N . Almanac, = $S. 28^\circ 04' 01''$, $\tan. = 9.72690$
Lat. of Philadelphia = $N. 39^\circ 57' 00''$, $\tan. = 9.92304$

Sine of Moon's ascensional difference, = 9.64994
= $26^\circ 32'$, in time, $1h. 46m$.

The difference between 6 hours and this, = $4h. 14m$, which subtracted from the *Eastern* time, $2h. 10.2m$, increased by 12 hours, that is, from $14h. 10.2m$, will

leave $9h. 56.2m$, $A. M.$ = the time of the moon's rising at Philadelphia, Nov. 30, 1837, civil account.

Example 3.—Required the time of the moon's setting at Calcutta, in lat. $22^\circ 34'$, N . and lon. $88^\circ 26'$, E . December 1, 1837, civil account?

By subtracting $88^\circ 26'$, E . from $90^\circ W$. we have the lon. of the *Western* meridian, = $1^\circ 34'$, W . = $6.3m$, in time. And by N . Alm. the moon passes Greenwich meridian, December 1, 1837, at $3h. 14.8m$, astronomical time. Her daily variation of passage = $59m$; whence, $360^\circ : 1^\circ 34' :: 59m : 0.3m$, = the correction; which, added to the $3h. 14.8m$, gives the *Western* time, = $3h. 15.1m$. To this, adding the lon. of the *Western* meridian, $6.3m$, because W . we obtain $3h. 21.4m$, = the reduced time.

Moon's declination at reduced time, by

N . Almanac, = $S. 25^\circ 58' 52''$, $\tan. = 9.68782$
Lat. of Calcutta, = $N. 22^\circ 34' 00''$, $\tan. = 9.61865$

Sine of Moon's descensional difference, = 9.30647

The difference between 6 hours and this, = $5h. 13.3m$; which, added to the *Western* time, $3h. 15.1m$, will give $8h. 28.4m$, $P. M.$ = the time of the moon's setting at Calcutta, December 1, 1837, civil account.

Although the time obtained by either of the preceding rules would seem, from the investigation, to have reference to the moon's centre; yet, owing to peculiar circumstances, it will be found to apply, with much more propriety, to her upper limb, (or edge,) at either rising or setting.

If, with Dr. Bowditch and others, we take the Moon's mean hor. parallax at $57' 30''$,
Her mean hor. semi-diameter at $16' 00''$,
The mean horizontal refraction at $33' 00''$,
And the dip, supposing the height

of the eye 15 feet, at $3' 50''$,
= $52' 50''$,

We shall have the absolute depression

of the moon's upper limb only $4' 40''$.

Because the first of these items tends to depress the moon below the horizon, while the other three serve to elevate her upper edge into view above it; therefore, the difference is the depression of the upper limb below the horizon at the time given by the rule. And the moon's edge will pass over that small arch of $4' 40''$, of a degree, in 20 seconds of time, or one-third of a minute, at most; rising later, and setting earlier, by that difference. But such a difference is too trivial to be regarded in a matter of this nature, especially when it is considered that every one of these four elements is ever varying by minute quantities. The rule, in either case, supposes a true and clear horizon, and the moon's upper limb luminous.

It is proper to observe here, that, $28^\circ 46'$, being the utmost limit of the moon's declination, its complement, $61^\circ 14'$, is the limit of latitude, beyond which the moon does not rise and set daily, in regular order, when her declination, on that side of the equinoctial, is at its maximum; but goes round above the horizon, without setting, for several revolutions, as the sun does to places within the polar circles. For instance, about September 21, 1837, when the moon attains the N . declination $28^\circ 22'$, nearly, she will continue above the horizon of Drontheim, in Norway, in latitude $63^\circ 26'$, N . more than three days and nights together, without setting. But for all places within the latitude $61^\circ 14'$, N . and S . the rules will always prove competent.

Correction.—The times found by the rules are sufficiently exact for all practical purposes. But sometimes when the moon's ascensional (or descensional) difference happens to be great, a result somewhat more accurate may be obtained by substituting the sum of 90° and the ascensional (or descensional) difference, when the latitude and moon's declination are of the same name, — otherwise, their difference — in place of 90° , in both rules; and then proceeding, in all respects, as the rules direct.

By applying this improvement to the above three

cases, Ex. 1, will come out $4\frac{1}{2}$ seconds later than the time already found; Ex. 2, 24 seconds earlier; Ex. 3, 12 seconds earlier;—a sufficient evidence of the correctness of each rule in its primitive state.

Dr. Bowditch's methods, p. 387-8 though complex and elaborate, are incompetent for any one of these examples; and indeed for any other case, even within the limits of this table 9; nor have I ever seen any competent directions for effecting the purpose, though highly important to the Navigator, under various circumstances:—while the Nautical Almanac is perfectly silent on the subject.

MARTIN ROCHE,

Prof. Mathematics, U. S. Navy.

Gosport Navy Yard, Va., March 13, 1840.

NOTE.—The reason why dates now past, have been assumed for the above illustrations, is, because the whole was prepared for publication in March, 1837, long antecedent to any one of those dates. But the Naval Magazine discontinued too soon after the arrival of the document in New York.

* Proportioning thus, is preferable to using Table 28 in Bowditch, as being more accurate. That table would have given 2m, in Ex. 1., above; 3m, in Ex. 2; and 9m, in Ex. 3.

† The moon of any day, civil account, is the commencement of the day of the same date, astronomical account. In other words, the astronomical day begins at the noon or middle point of the civil day of the same date.

Proceedings of Congress,

IN RELATION TO THE ARMY, NAVY, &c.

IN SENATE.

MONDAY, MAY 24, 1840.

The CHAIR submitted a message from the President of the U. S., transmitting a copy of the proceedings instituted to try the title of the Peapatch island, and recommending to Congress to pass a special act, giving to the Circuit Court of the district of Maryland jurisdiction to try the cause; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

TUESDAY, MAY 26.

The CHAIR submitted a report from the Secretary of War, in compliance with a resolution of the Senate of the 20th of April, 1836, relative to sites for fortifications on the coast of Mississippi; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. HUBBARD, from the Committee on Claims, to which was referred the bill for the relief of General Duncan L. Clinch, reported the same without amendment.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27.

The bill for the relief of Gen. D. L. Clinch was read a third time and passed.

THURSDAY, MAY 28.

Mr. WILLIAMS, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported, without amendment, the bill for the relief of the sureties and heirs and representatives of Melancton W. Bostwick, deceased.

Mr. W., from the same Committee, also reported, without amendment, the bill to regulate enlistments in the army and navy.

FRIDAY, MAY 29.

Mr. BUCHANAN, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported a joint resolution, authorizing the President of the U. S. to accept certain presents from the Imaum of Muscat, and the Emperor of Morocco, and to dispose of the same; which was read twice, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

On motion of Mr. HUBBARD, the bill for the relief of Gen. D. L. Clinch was recommitted to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. CLAYTON submitted the following motion, which was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, directed to communicate to the Senate the correspondence between the District Attorney of the U. S. for the Delaware District, and the War Department, relative to the proceedings which have been taken for the recovery of the Peapatch; and the correspondence between the persons claiming the said Peapatch, or their agents, and the Department, since the 1st of March, 1839.

Mr. DAVIS submitted the following motion, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be instructed to inquire into the expediency of modifying the law in relation to seamen discharged in foreign ports.

MONDAY, JUNE 1.

Mr. TALLMADGE presented a memorial of citizens of the State of Ohio, remonstrating against the use of bloodhounds in the Florida war; which was laid on the table.

Mr. SOUTHARD submitted papers relating to the boarding pistols and rifles invented by Samuel Colt; which were ordered to be printed.

The joint resolution, authorizing the President of the U. S. to accept certain presents from the Imaum of Muscat, and the Emperor of Morocco, and to dispose of the same, was read a third time, and passed.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 1840.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a message from the President of the United States in relation to certain presents transmitted to him by the Sultan of Muscat, and suggesting legislative provision for such cases. Referred, on motion of Mr. CUSHING, to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

MONDAY, MAY 25.

On motion of Mr. HABERSHAM, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on Claims be instructed to inquire into the expediency of allowing to the late Captain John Jackson, of the revenue service, now deceased, a credit of \$750, on the books of the Treasury Department, which sum now stands charged against him on said books.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a petition from citizens of Oneida county, in the State of New York, praying that Congress would prohibit the use of ardent spirits in the army and navy, and its sale to the Indians, and to prohibit its sale in the Capitol to members of Congress and others.

Mr. RAMSEY moved to lay the petition on the table. Mr. WISE called for the yeas and nays; which having been ordered, were—yeas 65, nays 82. So the House having refused to lay the petition on the table, on motion of Mr. MARVIN it was referred to the Committee for the District of Columbia.

Mr. ADAMS asked leave to submit the following resolutions, which were read:

Resolved, That the Circuit Court of the U. S. within the district of Connecticut, having decided that the Africans captured in the Amistad were not amenable before itself, or any other court of the U. S., for trial of the crimes of piracy and murder committed on the high seas, upon the charge of which against them, they had been captured by Lieut. Gedney, an executive officer in the service of the U. S., and brought before the said circuit court; there exists in the U. S. no lawful authority to hold the said Africans in captivity within the said State of Connecticut, and all detention or imprisonment of their persons within the said State, without charge against them of any offence against the laws of the U. S., or of the said State, is unlawful, arbitrary and oppressive.

Resolved, That the President of the U. S. possesses no lawful authority to detain as captives or prisoners, the said Africans, or any of them, by any officer or officers of the U. S., whether civil or military, executive or judicial.

Resolved, That there exists no obligation, either in the law of nations, or by any treaty stipulation between the U. S. and Spain, by which the President of the U. S. can be required, or is authorized to cause the said Africans to be delivered up to the disposal of the diplo-

matic representative of Spain, or to any officer of any foreign Government in the United States.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the laws of the U. S. for the punishment of crimes, as to confer upon the courts of the U. S. of competent jurisdiction, full power to take cognizance of, try, and adjudicate, in conformity with the laws of nations, all charges against persons accused of the crimes of piracy and murder committed on the high seas in vessels and by subjects or citizens of any nation foreign to the U. S., whenever any such person or persons charged with the commission of the said crime or crimes, or either of them, may be found or lawfully brought within the jurisdiction of the United States.

Objection was made to the introduction of the resolution, and it accordingly lies over, under the rules.

Mr. ADAMS asked the consent of the House to offer another resolution.

Mr. SMITH, of Maine, objected to the reception of any resolutions at this time. He had many petitions to present, and would not agree to the reception of resolutions until the petitions were all received.

EVENING SESSION.

Mr. PETRIKIN asked leave to offer a resolution instructing the Committee on the Public Buildings to inquire into the expediency of erecting a plain brick fire-proof building, connected with the War Department, for the use of the several bureaus therein named, and for the safe keeping of the records thereof.

Objected to.

Mr. THOMPSON, of S. C., from the Committee on Military Affairs, which was instructed to inquire into the propriety of increasing the pay of the volunteers, reported that it was inexpedient to legislate on the subject; which was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. T. from the same Committee, reported a joint resolution to present a sword to Gen. D. L. Clinch; which was read twice, and committed.

Mr. T. also, from the same Committee, to which was referred a memorial of the Legislature of the Territory of Iowa, reported the following resolution, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, directed to receive, and cause to be examined, the muster rolls and other evidence of the claims of the Territory of Iowa for the expenses of a portion of the militia of the said Territory, called into service during the autumn of 1839; and that he report the same to Congress at the next session.

Mr. PETRIKIN, from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, reported the following resolution; which was agreed to, viz.

Whereas, the Department is, at present, compelled to rent several buildings for the accommodation of the following bureaus, at an average rent equal to the interest of fifty thousand dollars, at 6 per cent. per annum:

1. Bureau of Pensions;
2. do of Bounty Lands;
3. do of the Paymaster General;
4. do of the Commissary Gen. of Subsistence;
5. do of Ordnance;
6. do of the Surgeon General;
7. do of Fortifications;
8. do of Topographical Engineers;
9. do of Army Clothing;

none of which buildings are fire-proof, and if destroyed with their contents, would be a loss which could not be repaid; the Topographical Bureau alone contains maps and plans, the work of years and of great importance, and which could not be replaced but at a cost of a large amount of money; therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds be instructed to inquire into and to report to this House, the practicability of erecting a plain building, principally of brick, connected with the present building occupied by the War Department, either in whole or in part fire-proof, the cost of which shall not exceed sixty thousand dollars, for the accommodation of the several bureaus before named, and the safe-keeping of the records thereof.

Mr. W. O. BUTLER, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill for the relief of Col. W. Piatt; which was twice read, and committed.

Mr. H. J. ANDERSON, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported back to the House, without amendment, Senate bill, entitled "An act for the relief of Lieut. John E. Bispham;" which was committed.

Mr. H. J. A. from the same Committee, made unfavorable reports on the petitions of John A. Dickason, William Boerum, and Zebulon Wade. Laid on the table.

Mr. H. J. A. from the same Committee, reported a bill for the relief of Elizabeth Champney, and a bill for the relief of Samuel Hambleton; which were read twice, and appropriately committed.

On motion of Mr. A. the same committee was discharged from the further consideration of the resolutions of the common council of Brooklyn, in the State of New York, in relation to the dry dock at that city; also, from the memorial of citizens of Sherborne, Chenango, Oneida, and Columbia counties, in the State of New York, in relation to the use of intoxicating drinks in the army and navy, and among the Indians; and that said memorials do lie on the table.

Mr. MONROE, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill authorizing the construction of a steam vessel, under the direction of the Secretary of War; which was read twice, and committed to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

FRIDAY, MAY 29.

The bill for the relief of Gen. D. Parker came up in its order for engrossment; and

A debate ensued, in which CAVE JOHNSON participated in opposition to the bill, on the ground that there was not the shadow of foundation for the claims; and Messrs. LINCOLN, GOGGIN, and W. THOMPSON participated in its favor, contending that the claims had been allowed to other officers under similar circumstances; and that it had received the unanimous sanction of the Military Committee. Before the bill was passed upon, the House, at the hour of 2½ o'clock, took its usual recess.

EVENING SESSION.

The question being on ordering the bill for the relief of Gen. D. Parker to be engrossed for a third reading,

Mr. GRAVES demanded the previous question; which having received a second, and the question being then, "Shall the main question be now put?" that is, on ordering it to be engrossed,

Mr. PETRIKIN demanded the yeas and nays; which, having been ordered, were—yeas 75, nays 53. So the bill having been ordered to be engrossed, was engrossed, and read the third time, and passed.

SATURDAY, MAY 30.

Mr. GALBRAITH rose to a privileged question. He said, since the vote had been given on yesterday in favor of the passage of the bill for the relief of Gen. D. Parker, he had more fully examined into the merits of the claim, and was satisfied that that bill should not pass. The opportunity was not afforded him to examine the question before the vote was taken. He therefore moved that the vote on the passage of the bill be reconsidered.

Mr. GIDDINGS spoke of the merits of the claim, and said it was a bill of more importance than was apparent on its face—that it was an entering wedge to a class of claims of the same character. He said it was not based upon principles of law or justice, but its only merit seemed that he was entitled to the claim because others had received it in like circumstances. He argued against the claim.

Mr. COLES advocated the claim; spoke of the several favorable reports which had been made from the Military Committee, and the Ways and Means Committee, in its favor, as proof that there was great merit in the claim. It had also received the favorable consideration of the Departments years ago.

Mr. GOGGIN spoke in opposition to the motion to reconsider, and

Mr. GALBRAITH in favor of that motion; when

Mr. LINCOLN advocated the claim; spoke of the favorable report of the Committee on Military Affairs in 1836, of which the now Vice President [Mr. JOHNSON] was the chairman. That report received the unani-

mous vote of that committee. He went into a history of the whole matter, and contended that the claim was one of merit unquestionably. If one should rise from the dead, and speak with the tongue of an angel, the merits of the claim could not be made to appear more just or clear.

Mr. WADDY THOMPSON argued that every officer similarly circumstanced had received what was proposed by the bill to be given to Gen. Parker; that is, double rations. It was a question of justice and equity, if not of law, and hoped the vote on the passage of the bill would not be reconsidered.

Mr. SMITH, of Indiana, moved the previous question; which having been seconded, and the main question ordered, viz. "Shall the vote be reconsidered,"

Mr. GALBRAITH demanded the yeas and nays; which having been ordered, were—yeas 86, nays 68. So the vote was reconsidered. The question then recurred on the passage of the bill; when Mr. SMITH, of Indiana, moved to lay the bill on the table. Mr. EVANS demanded the yeas and nays on that motion; which having been ordered, were—yeas 92, nays 64. So the bill was laid on the table.

MAJOR DOUGLASS' WORK ON THE LAST WAR.—We understand that Major Douglass, whose interesting lectures, illustrative of the campaigns upon our northern frontier, during the last winter, afforded so much gratification to the auditors, is about putting his views in a more permanent form, and that a detailed history of these events, in which he was an actor, may soon be expected from his pen. Major Douglass is the sole surviving member of the corps of Engineers who, in 1814 at Fort Erie, gave such evidence, when opposed to the most accomplished European officers, of practical science; and as his work will afford an enlightened soldier's account of the movements anterior to the Niagara campaign, including the events on the northwestern frontier, where General Harrison, after creating, as it were by magic, a new army, wiped off the stain of Hull's defeat, and freed the States of Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana, from the presence of a foreign foe, it cannot otherwise than meet with universal attention at the present moment.

It may be here remarked, that the talents of Major Douglass have not been always confined to the military branch of his profession. After leaving West Point, where he filled an important place in the Academic staff, and constructing the Jamaica rail road, confessedly inferior to none in the country, though built at half the expense of the cheapest, Major Douglass was employed by the water commissioners of this city, and all the preliminary examinations which led to the adoption of the report that obtained legislative sanction, were made under his direction. —*New York American.*

SEMAPHORIC TELEGRAPH.

Just received, and for sale at the office of the Army and Navy Chronicle,

JOHN R. PARKER'S SEMAPHORIC TELEGRAPH SIGNAL BOOK and UNITED STATES TELEGRAPH VOCABULARY, in Three Parts; containing,

The Marine Telegraph and Holyhead systems of conversation, adapted to the use of the Semaphoric Telegraph, embracing 30,000 words, phrases and sentences, numerically arranged for conversation between vessels at sea, as well as communications on shore;

The Marine Telegraph Register, of 2,000 vessels which have adopted the Semaphoric system of communication with the Marine Telegraph flags.

Sets of flags, with a designating number and Signal Book, supplied by
B. HOMANS,
June 1—6m Agent for the Proprietor.

ARMY, NAVY, AND MARINE UNIFORMS.

JOHN SMITH, (late of West Point,) would respectfully inform the officers of the army and navy, that he is now enabled to furnish to the different corps their uniform complete, all made of the best materials, and forwarded with despatch.

To prevent errors, the Legislature of New York has authorized him to change his name to JOHN S. FRASER; therefore all letters hereafter will be addressed to
JOHN S. FRASER,
March 5—tf 168 Pearl street, New York

WASHINGTON CITY,
THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1840.

CAPTAIN THISTLE'S INVENTIONS.

There have been in all ages and countries men whose creative genius and indomitable spirit have overcome the disadvantages of station and of early education. Such a man we conceive Captain THISTLE to be, who, if he had had the benefit of a liberal education, might have shed light upon science, and conferred benefits upon mankind. His inventive faculties are never idle, and have produced valuable improvements in several objects in military use, some of which we propose to notice. It is not claimed for them that they will effect any great revolution in the art of war or in military manœuvres; they are of humbler pretensions, but are nevertheless calculated to facilitate the operations of military bodies. An account of one of these inventions—a saddle for removing wounded men from the field of battle—was published in the Army and Navy Chronicle of October 27, 1836. We therefore omit any further notice of that at present, and commence with the

PACK-SADDLE.—This invention was submitted in Feb. 1839, to the examination of a Board consisting of Major [now Lt. Col.] GARLAND, Captain M. M. CLARK and A. R. HETZEL, who reported that, after having carefully examined it, they considered it "well adapted for the purpose of packing military supplies for the army serving in Florida and on the western frontier;" and they accordingly recommended that the pattern be adopted. A small number was only at first ordered, waiting the test of experience before it was brought into general use. These were distributed in Florida and along the frontiers, and partial reports thereon have been made. The Quartermaster General is, however, so well convinced of the superiority of this saddle over all others now in use, that he intends, if the reports of its tests in actual service in the field are as favorable as he anticipates, to introduce it as rapidly as it may become necessary to replace the large supply now on hand. Major W. C. SANDERS, who acted as Quartermaster to a brigade of Tennessee volunteers in Florida, gave it as his decided opinion that Capt. THISTLE's saddle was a great improvement upon those formerly in use, and that it deserved the commendation of every officer of the army. He estimated that in Florida alone, not less than \$100,000 had been lost in horses injured by the ordinary pack saddle; and his opinions are fully confirmed by Capt. B. L. BEALL, of the 2d regiment Dragoons, U. S. A. Mr. HALL J. KELLY, who has travelled much in Mexico and California, where nearly all burdens are carried on the backs of horses and mules, expresses his conviction that this saddle is a great improvement on any thing of the kind he had ever seen, and hoped to see it brought into general use.

Another of Capt. THISTLE's inventions is the

WROUGHT-IRON CANNON.—This cannon can not only be made much lighter than of cast iron, and consequently much less cumbersome to transport with an

army, but at one third the expense of brass guns, while it is more durable. The manufacture of wrought-iron cannon in this country has never been attempted except by way of experiment, and the effort would, no doubt, be attended at first, like that of every new invention, with difficulty and occasional loss; but that cannon of this description can be made, and successfully used, seems very rational; for if wrought-iron muskets, rifles and pistols, are so evidently superior to cast-iron that the latter material is never thought of in their construction, there would seem to be no solid reason why cannon should not be made as well as small arms, of wrought-iron.

Captain W. H. BELL, an officer of high standing and science in the U. S. Ordnance corps, has stated that "artillerists who had seen the above enumerated defects [want of sufficient tenacity, strength, and hardness] in field-artillery, saw very clearly that there was but one known metal which could afford to cannon the necessary lightness, strength and durability, and that that was wrought-iron, in which there was nearly the same hardness as in cast-iron, much greater strength, and incomparably greater tenacity." Attempts have been made in Europe and in this country to manufacture wrought-iron cannon, but always failed in consequence of imperfect welding. This difficulty Captain THISTLE professes to have overcome, and asked of Congress an appropriation of \$10,000, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War in the construction of a rifled or smooth bore wrought-iron cannon. The appropriation was not made, probably from want of time to deliberate upon it. It is an experiment worth the cost of trial, and if it effect but half the benefits expected from a change of material, an entire revolution in that implement of war may ere long take place. It will not do, in the present age, to say at what point improvement shall stop.

Still another invention is that of an

IMPROVED CARBINE.—Gen. JESUP, an old as well as an experienced soldier, remarks that "we have long wanted, for service in the field, arms that could be loaded at the breech. The ordinary musket must be brought to the ground to be loaded, thus exposing the body of the soldier; if it could be loaded at the breech, the bayonet would be projected in front of the body, covering it from sudden attack, and affording all the moral advantage arising from the consciousness, on the part of the soldier, of comparative security." Gen. J. adds, that "the principle applied by Capt. THISTLE to his carbine remedies the defect which has rendered Hall's rifles useless; and rifles, muskets and carbines upon that principle must ultimately supersede all other small arms now in use." This is strong testimony, and as satisfactory as any, short of actual experiment, need be. All that is wanted is the opportunity to give the carbine a fair trial; but Capt. THISTLE's circumstances are such that he cannot make the experiments with his own means; and unless he can obtain the aid of Government or of

men of capital, his invention stands but a poor chance of success.

These inventions, if carried into successful operation, ought to bring wealth and fame to the inventor; but there is still another—a

PORTABLE MAGAZINE.—Lieut. A. M. MITCHELL, formerly of the 4th infantry, acted as ordnance officer in Florida during the campaign of 1836, and testifies to the great want at that period of such an invention. There was no means of transporting the ammunition on horseback, without ruining the animal and rendering the ammunition unfit for use by exposure. In a four days march, nearly every animal was rubbed by the boxes so much as to be unfit for use; and he is confident that if they had had the benefit of Captain THISTLE's invention which he had examined, this would have been avoided.

We have here the testimony of several officers of science, skill, and experience, as to the importance and utility of Capt. THISTLE's various inventions or improvements; but none of them have yet been adopted to any extent. In some countries he would have been caressed and remunerated; here he is neglected, and left to fight his own way to notice. There is an energy and invincibility of spirit in Americans which despises obstacles, that incite only to greater perseverance instead of producing discouragement.

We might add that Captain THISTLE has expended considerable sums of money—indeed all that he could command—in making models and experiments, and in bringing his improvements as near to perfection as it was practicable to do; so that he is now left without the means to continue those experiments, or make any further improvements that may suggest themselves. We trust, however, that the Government will not allow these useful inventions to be lost, for want of a fair trial, and that the ingenious inventor may be remunerated for his labors and disappointments.

THE KNICKERBOCKER.—The July and August numbers of this welcome periodical were received through the agent, T. R. HAMPTON, in due season. The first of these, which commences the 16th volume, we read the moment it came to hand, and intended to have noticed it; but as we cannot always command our own time, or even our thoughts, the notice was deferred until too late. We do not speak the language of unmeaning, common-place eulogy, when we say that the Knickerbocker is a work which every American should take delight and pride in fostering, as it is one which he may be assured reflects the highest credit upon the literary character of his country. If we could transfer a moiety of the readers and borrowers of our copy to the list of subscribers, we could add something worth mentioning; and if we thought that the loan of it would deter one from becoming a subscriber, we should refuse it; but it is with the hope that all who read the K. will be so well convinced of its merits as to subscribe for it on their own account

that we allow so many to participate in the enjoyment of its perusal.

Although we need not wait, now-a-days, for foreigners to applaud American works before we form our own opinions, we yet know that the *K.* is highly appreciated abroad by men of sterling literary taste and attainments.

Mr. PAULDING, Secretary of the Navy, left Washington on Monday last, on a visit to the White Sulphur Springs, Va., and Commodore MORRIS has been appointed acting Secretary. The reports which have been circulated, of a contemplated change in the Head of the Department, we believe are without foundation.

There are many rumors afloat, of contemplated changes, some of which we give, as rumors only, however, without vouching for their correctness.

It is understood that Commo. WADSWORTH will retire from the Navy Board, and be appointed Inspector of Ordnance and Ammunition; and that the vacant seat has been tendered to Commo. WARRINGTON, who, it is believed, will accept.

It is reported that, in consequence of ill-health, Commo. CRANE has asked to be relieved from the command of the navy yard, at Portsmouth, N. H., and, if so, there is no doubt that his wishes will be gratified. Commo. C. has participated largely in active service ever since he attained his present grade—now upwards of twenty-five years.

Nothing definitive has yet been done respecting the East India squadron.

MILITARY ACADEMY.—The following are the names of the most distinguished Cadets in each class, reported conformably to a Regulation for the government of the Military Academy, to be attached to the Army Register.

FIRST CLASS.		THIRD CLASS.	
1. Paul O. Hebert, Lou.		1. John Newton, Va.	
2. Chas. P. Kingsbury, N. C.		2. H. L. Eustis, Mass.	
3. John McNutt, Ohio.		3. Geo. W. Raines, Ala.	
4. Wm. Page Jones, Va.		4. John D. Kurtz, D. C.	
5. William Gilham, Inda.		5. Wm. S. Rosecrans, O.	
SECOND CLASS.		FOURTH CLASS.	
1. Zealous B. Tower, Mass.		1. Wm. B. Franklin, Pa.	
2. Horatio G. Wright, Conn.		2. T. J. Brereton, D. C.	
3. Masillon Harrison, Va.		3. Wm. F. Reynolds, O.	
4. Josiah Gorgas, N. Y.		4. J. J. Reynolds, Inda.	
5. Smith Stansbury, Md.		5. Jas. A. Hardie, N. Y.	

ARRIVALS AT WASHINGTON.

July 23—Capt. G W Hughes, Top. Engrs., F Markoe's
Capt. D. S. Miles, A Q M, Keller's
24—Captain E A Ogden, A Q M, Brown's
Lieut. J B S Todd, 6th infy., Gadsby's
31—Surgeon H S Hawkins, army, Fuller's
Lieut. R S Ewell, 1st drags., do
Aug. 3—Capt. H Garner, 3d arty., O B Brown's
Lieut. H W Halleck, Engr. Corps, Keller's
4—Captain W Seawell, 7th infy., Georgetown
Capt. J McClellan, Top. Engrs., Fuller's
Asst. Surgeon Ellis Hughes, army.

LETTERS ADVERTISED.

WASHINGTON, August 1, 1840.

ARMY.—Captain E Backus, Captain M M Clark, Major Isaac Clark, Captain C Graham 2, Doctor H S Hawkins 2, Captain J H Lamotte, Lieutenant H L

Scott, Col. H Stanton, Lieut. J B S Todd, Lieutenant J Vanhorn.

NAVY.—James J Forbes, Mid. B S Gantt 2, Capt F H Gregory 2, P. Mid. B M Harvey, Lieutenant J S Paine, C [H] Poor, [Purser] R Pettit 2, Lieutenant S C Rowan, W S Schenck, Robert D Taylor 2.

REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE.—Lieut. Osmond Peters 2.
PHILADELPHIA, August 1, 1840.

ARMY.—General Z Taylor, Captain J McClellan, Dr. J S Griffin.

NAVY.—Mid. A W Henry, M C Watkins, C St. Geo. Noland, C E Fleming, S D Lavallette, Lt. James [S] Palmer, [Purser] Robert Pettit, [Purser] Jos. Bryan, R. Delancy Izard.

MARINE CORPS.—Major [Lieut.] Francis C. Hall.
NORFOLK, August 1, 1840.

NAVY.—Lieut. W P Piercy 2, H J Hartstene, Passed Mid. J McCormick, Mid. W H McCrohan, John Deas.

PASSENGERS.

SAVANNAH, July 27, per steamboat General Clinch, from Black creek, Captains A S Miller and J H Lamotte, U S A; Doctors J M Cuyler and E Hughes, U S A; and Lieutenant N Darling, of the army, and lady. Per brig G B Lamar, for New York, Lieutenant J H Simpson, U S A, lady and servant; Lieutenant N Darling, U S A, lady and two children. July 28, per steamboat Florida, from Black creek, Lieutenant J W Penrose, lady and three children. July 31, per brig Philura, for New York, Lieutenant Penrose, U S A, and family.

NEW YORK, August 3, per brig G B Lamar, from Savannah, Lieutenant J H Simpson, U S A, and lady; Lieutenant N Darling, U S A, lady, and two children.

Communications.

PASTIMES IN THE PACIFIC. No. II.

ISLAY IN '38.

If in crowded cities, gay assemblies, and interesting scenes, my thoughts oft dwell upon home, how much more frequently ought I now to remember the past, the pleasant green spots in memory's waste, the few happy hours that have gilded my lonely pathway through life? For here in Islay all is barren—a dreary waste! We may, to be sure, look upon the rocks which form the harbor, and admire their whiteness; a solitary gull rests its white breast upon the waters; the fisher-penguin and sea-lion may now and then be seen to pop their heads above the wave, and the hump-backed whale has its sports around us.

Islay, founded in 1829, contains about fifteen hundred inhabitants. The houses are generally built of long willow or cane sticks, lined inside with rush mats, or plastered over with mud—the pitched roofs of the same material. These humble dwellings are one-story high, and are not so liable to injury from earthquakes as those more substantially built. A large frame, whitewashed, with its gable end fronting the plaza, is the church where the good Catholic maids and matrons tell their beads and make their orisons. The town, though regularly laid out, is broken by deep ravines, bordered with white ashes, said to have been discharged many years since from the volcanoes of Araquipa. Two leagues back the land rises rather suddenly to the height of nearly two thousand feet, without an herb or green bush to relieve the eye, which painfully surveys the extended arid soil. There is but one spot, one oasis in this vast desert, a small olive grove at the foot of the mountain, near which rises a spring, affording a supply barely sufficient for the necessities of the townspeople, to whom it is conveyed by means of an aqueduct of tile laid under ground. All eatables are brought from one to twenty leagues distance.

Near Islay is a sink, or hole, ninety or one hundred feet deep, caused probably by some volcanic convulsion. The sea rushes in at the bottom of this pit with a hollow moan, and the brown rocks which line

its side prolong the sound. We totter on its edge, half inclined to plunge into the abyss and end—but hark! the tinkling of a guitar, and the sound of castanets, ‘beating time to bounding feet,’ recall us to life and our social little pic-nic by the sea-side, in the shade of overhanging rocks, with the waters of the great Pacific playing and sparkling at our feet.

We may cast our eyes over the undulating valley, and truly say, ‘all is barren!’ we may wander from quebrada to quebrada without meeting with one spear of grass, one solitary lonely bush, to break the gloomy aspect. Dust and ashes, and hundreds of Indian graves, with bones scattered around, bleaching in the sun on the parched ground, remind us of our mortality; and the hollow earth beneath, resounding with our tread, of our last resting place.

From day to day, week to week, yes, for upwards of a month, we have been lying in this lonely, wild harbor, the wretched port of Islay, counting every tedious hour as it wastes slowly away, and why—for what purpose? *Quien sabe?* Ah ha! the fruit is not ripe, nor the harvest at hand. Well well, let us not murmur, but enjoy ourselves in this desert land. If we had but the “one kind spirit for our minister,” we might seat ourselves on the wild rocks that overlook the wide sea, and watch the glorious sun of this mild clime sink in the bosom of the blue waters; or seek the fisher’s bay, and hand in hand gather the curious shells cast upon the yellow sands, and the brown pebbles of the beach.

Behold, at the foot of a high and rugged point of rocks, the fisherman’s hut, formed of a few stones piled loosely for walls, across which are laid several ribs of the whale; over all he has cast a blanket or poncho; his two dogs, fierce curs, guard the passage to his rude retreat; three or four chickens give it somewhat of a civilized air; his balsa is drawn up on the shore, and he, a stout, athletic Indian, looks now upon the sea at two large vessels approaching in the distance, (supposed to be Chilean,) and then on his all of earthly store, drying *congriso*, strung upon poles before his dwelling.

Leaving the headland, we descend into a valley covered with white volcanic ashes, and from the height beyond look down upon another bay, into which, over rugged rocks, the waves dash foaming to the shore, echoing mournfully in deep caves where sea-birds wild have built their nests. The penguin, with head erect, feels his way cautiously from the rock—the seal slips quietly into the water—and the sea-gull screams harshly on our approach. “Look! look!” cries my companion, shouting for joy, “’tis beautiful, by all that’s pretty! Great Jove, I thank thee; see, see, so delicately formed—such exquisite proportion.” “What’s the matter now, why this excitement?” I inquired; “no doubt a woman’s in the case.” My conjecture was right—he stood gazing at the print a small foot had left in the sand. Ah, those little feet, those little feet, how many a palpitation, how many a heart-ache they have caused! “Hark!” said he, starting from his reverie, “heard you not the sound of a guitar? Come, let us cross to the opposite height.” Hastening along the dusty path, the sounds of mirth and glee grew more distinct, and lo! on the sea shore the village rustics in their holiday suits were dancing right merrily, happy, no doubt, in whiling away an hour or two in innocent amusement, thoughtless gaiety, if indeed they ever think; for they seem to live regardless of what the morrow may bring forth. Now and then they are aroused from their dull monotony by an earthquake. ‘*Temblor, temblor*,’ is the warning cry given as they rush from their dwellings into the streets. The danger is soon past, and as soon forgotten.

You see that even in Islay—where the arid waste of hill and dale seems panting for existence, not a single green bush, no, nor a melancholy cypress to attach ourselves to—forlorn as it is, the inhabitants

string their light guitars, and in their social pastimes envy not the most favored of the earth. Then why should we murmur at a five weeks’ anchorage in the port? Privations teach us to appreciate the comforts we may hereafter enjoy. Trust then to Providence. To home and friends we have not yet bid a last adieu.

G.

NOTES AND REMINISCENCES

OF AN OFFICER OF THE ARMY.—NO. V.

At Fort Snelling I found old friends, and officers with whom I had served at Jefferson Barracks: but independently of the most hearty hospitality—which I have ever met with on these occasions—an arrival, a new face, at such an outpost of civilization as this, is a bright link in that nearly severed chain which connects it with the world, gives an exciting impulse to its small society, which reacts upon the visiter and is the source of unwonted pleasure to all.

The defences of this fort are high stone walls; it stands on an elevated point, the confluence of the Mississippi and St. Peter’s rivers. In the rear, is a prairie nearly level and many miles in extent: an agreeable circumstance, when it is considered that chasing wolves and racing are almost the only resource for amusement and exercise. I rode over it nine miles, to the Falls of St. Anthony. The Mississippi here falls 22 feet perpendicularly; in places, immense masses of rock, disjointed and fallen from immemorial abrasion, add to the scene a sublime confusion and roar of waters. The 45th parallel of N. latitude is said to pass through the falls. I heard that evening at the fort the sound of the falls very plainly.

During my stay of two days, one of the Mackinaw boats in which I had gone up, was condemned, and sold at auction (for \$51) to an officer of the fort, an old friend who decided to accompany me on my return. We took our departure in the afternoon, having for crew my pilot and a discharged soldier, with a negro lad for “cabin boy;” one of us was always at the helm. Some eight or nine miles down, my friend discovered that he had unluckily left, a well-stored liquor case. We landed in consequence near an Indian camp, and despatched two Indians with a note, for it; they went in a canoe. We encamped, and were somewhat annoyed by the intrusion of our red friends.

While waiting for the messengers, let me give an account of our messing. There was abundant store of cold boiled ham, of the true Virginia flavor—corned and fresh beef, and of chickens: and the buffalo tongue should not be forgotten. Our coffee—not used with the stinting hand of a frugal housekeeper—was made after the most improved method, and with extreme care and attention; it was drawn with boiling water, like tea, and not suffered to boil afterwards. But who shall do justice to the venison, roasted in bits on a stick with alternate pieces of salt pork? First, the pleasing toil of the hunt, and the triumph of success; then the labor-inspired appetite, after the long fast which excitement forgot; then the lively fire at night under majestic forest trees; and oh, climax, the pieces of venison, bitten with nature’s weapons—not profaned with cold dull knife—and reeking hot, from the wooden spit! “Oh! let me die eating ortolans to the sound of soft music.” Bah!

About midnight I was awakened from a sound sleep; a candle was just expiring in the tent. I looked up and saw two dark forms almost over me, uttering with violent jesticulation the loudest and most uncouth sounds. I had instinctively grasped my rifle, and was very near putting it to its natural use; but it was our messengers, with the liquor case, who were half drunk and making an ill-timed speech to my companion: seeking, I suppose, to raise the means of completing their happiness.

The next morning early, while steering, wrapped in a pea-jacket, the current “took a sheer” on the rudder, and quick as thought precipitated me back.

wards into the river. I got out without much difficulty, but it was a rather rough adventure, when the freezing weather is considered.

True to its character we passed Lake Pepin with a tempestuous wind; we had a large sail up, but so deficient in tackle, that any sudden flaw of wind would have sunk us. The waves were very high, and I steered with a man holding my leg, to prevent my being thrown overboard. But the wind was steady, and we went through safely and right speedily.

The next day, while sailing with a high wind, we beheld another Mackinaw boat making its way to meet us, rowed by six or eight lively Frenchmen, dressed *cap-à-pie* in red. We boarded her in the middle of the river; in doing which I unluckily snapped in two our best oar, in endeavoring to lessen the concussion. We beheld a friend, Mr. T., an Indian agent; and, surmounting a vast pile of furniture, &c. &c., his newly married wife—a rough introduction to the northwest, she thought, no doubt. I had passed this party at the Des Moines rapids.

We sailed late, seeking a fit spot to encamp. The red light of burning prairies reflected in the troubled clouds, and again from the waters beneath—the sombre forests of shore and islands—the winds, now rushing in fearful gusts through the mountain passes, now heard in the moaning of distant forests—presented a wild, dreary and fearful scene. The boat, scarcely manageable, was tossed, and driven, stern foremost, on a mud bank, where in shoving off I further reduced our scanty stock of oars, by leaving one firmly imbedded. My companion lost his temper; we made a landing, kindled a small fire, and wrapped in our cloaks, sought repose in moody silence, each upon his blanket.

We arrived at Prairie du Chien, early on a cold and frosty morning, and found the troops drilling. That drilling, before breakfast, is not a fine thing in practice, if it be so in theory, either in cold or warm weather. I well remember at the Military Academy, mere lads as we were, that, fasting and exhausted, with feet thoroughly soaked with dew, we found such drills almost intolerable. They no doubt looked very interesting to the Board of Visitors (or others) strolling out for a few moments for fresh air (on gravelled walks) between rising and breakfast.

We luckily found a steamboat at the Prairie, and the next day took passage for Galena. We arrived off the mouth of Fever river, at the same time with another boat from below, and a spirited contest took place for precedence; as the river is too narrow to admit of two passing at the same time, several skilful manœuvres were executed by both vessels, and all hands became much excited. We plainly saw them loading a swivel, which they loudly threatened to fire into us. We gave them the go-by, however, without loss of life or limb. They had loaded with potatoes, it afterwards appeared, and I believe we were well contented with escaping the test of their efficacy.

Galena (so appropriately named) is eight miles from the mouth of Fever river, narrow, deep, and sluggish to this point; above, it is a shallow and insignificant stream. This is the depôt for the mining district; and though destined to importance and wealth, it was then merely a place of business: and as rough and lawless as new. Our stay there was rendered particularly disagreeable by constant rain; and it seemed that no other mud in the world possessed so nearly the tenacity of glue: so that the town was rendered nearly inaccessible from the boat by a high bank.

I was politely invited to breakfast with a young

The Galenians, jealous of the reputation of their town for health, or discontented with an ominous name, contend that "Fever" is a corruption of the French name *Fere*, or *Bean* river. *Prairie du Chien*, or *Dog Prairie*, is said too, to be properly *P. de Chene*, *Oak prairie*.

merchant, with whom I had formed a slight acquaintance above. So the morning after my arrival, at a seasonable hour I abandoned, with some misgivings, the scene of very comfortable arrangements for that meal in the cabin, effected an escalade of the bank (of mud) and after much difficulty in ascertaining the whereabouts of my intended host, arrived at a retail store in a log hut, and was shown over the counter, into a cuddy of a counting room. Here I was allowed ample time to make a survey of the dirty void around me, and to wonder at an alarming delay of any sensible sign of preparation, or any mention, of the meal, which the damp air and the late hour constantly conjured to the imagination, and before my considerate host chose to find time to offer me his salutations. A new period of anxious doubts was then passed in the most commonplace remarks which an effort of politeness seemed to extract from us. At length my kind friend seemed posed, and seized the desperate expedient of offering me a glass of—Heaven knows what!—gin—or whiskey.

Of the three meals, commend me to my breakfast; 'tis the one I love, and linger over, with silent and grave complacency; but now, all desperate in prospect, the matter could no longer remain in suspense. A conviction of the unaccountable folly of having my trust in a bachelor establishment in the new and dismal depôt of the mining district of northwestern Illinois, or the *savoir-faire* of its Yahoo head, flashed over me:—an explanation was demanded; and I believe Mr. M. took the trouble to intimate that he boarded at a certain eating house, distant a quarter of a mile of chaotic mud, where he had satisfied the cravings of nature, as well as he could, at some indefinite antecedent period of that gloomy and ill-fated morning! No apology being offered—I believe the fellow had forgotten his ridiculous invitation—I made him my politest bow, and escaped from his den—vowing never again to accept an invitation to breakfast; (a vow I have seldom broken, and never, I believe, without regretting it.)

That evening, for the sake of a nearer view of men and things at this Ultima Thule of pseudo civilization, I accompanied an acquaintance to a tavern; and I had in my mind, I confess, a distinct conviction of the basis of the developments of character which were expected in these mirers, adventurers and outlaws. I was ushered into a large ban-like room, the common scene of eating, drinking, smoking, lounging and sleeping; and it now presented strong evidences, as I expected, of still another appropriation, to wit, gambling. With little delay, and less of ceremony, I found myself one of seven (I had reason to believe the most respectable citizens of the town,) around a table in a corner, and the "papers" in motion; every man "bragging" according to his "pile;" and I, emphatically, on my "own hook;" for I was a stranger in a strange place. As I was more intent upon my observations, than the matter before me, it was not long before I had a *coup d'œil* of eight or ten different tables, each surrounded by players, say fifty men, all swearing or talking loudly; many intoxicated, disputing and quarreling.

My interest in this characteristic display might be thought a little exciting, in consideration that of this large and turbulent assemblage very few were above my suspicions of any particular accomplishment, from the slipping of a cord to the cutting of a throat.

Being careless, fortune seemed to favor; and as my "pile" grew, so the force of circumstances seemed in a strange manner to increase the visible protrusion of the handle of a trusty dirk-pistol from the left breast pocket of my over-coat. Perhaps it was an instinctive action upon the maxim, "do as Rome as the Romans do." My apprehensions, however, on the score of the silver, were premature and groundless; I was spared the dangerous responsibility of guarding home any extra amount of treasure;

and in fact, trying to persuade myself of a *quid pro quo*, I very philosophically congratulated myself on a specific gravity lessened by a few pounds avoirdupois, as I made my soundings through the street, on the dark errand to my steamboat berth. The next morning—a stranger may be allowed to remark it—a man was found at the river edge, quite dead, from a wound to his carotid artery.

Mining—or rather the search for veins or “leads”—is in itself a pursuit dictated by a restless, unsettled spirit of adventure, of the same character as that which finds vent in gambling; and in a new, pioneer settlement of adventurers thus attracted, and of lawless, licentious workmen, a decided prevalence of this and its kindred vices might be calculated on with mathematical certainty. But the same, in a less degree, is the character and spirit of the inhabitants of all new States; and accordingly, gambling is found openly to prevail in the west. That indolence, satiety, and a natural thirst for excitement, debarred from more honorable outlets in old established and formal societies, lead to the clandestine indulgence of this vice, and to excess, in old States, is very well known; but it is concealed carefully beneath the smoother surface of affairs. In the west it was almost universal, and is open and unimpeached. It was not uncommon for traders or farmers on the way to a market, to adventure their produce at the gaming table, then, but happily not now, so universal on the steamboats.

We were fortunate, so late in the season, (the end of November,) to obtain a passage in a steamboat to St. Louis; so after a stay of some days at Galena, we gladly embarked for more congenial scenes. Cards were the order of the day, and of the night; it was nothing strange that the captain and other officers of the boat should be thus almost constantly engaged; but it was remarkable that the former personage should be rather more than suspected of cheating, a circumstance that was very publicly and plainly insinuated by my companion, Lieut. H.

We arrived in St. Louis, December 2d.

F. R. D.

Domestic Intelligence.

FLORIDA WAR.

We learn from a passenger in the steamer Florida, that a party of mounted men, recently scouting near Fort Mellon, fell in with a party of Indians, who showed some signs of battle, but retreated to a hammock. On the troops dismounting and charging them, the Indians got in the rear of the troops, and killed two out of four men, that were left to guard the horses, and taking also ten of the horses with them, and making good their escape.—*Savannah Georgian*.

From the *St. Augustine Herald*, July 21.

A sergeant and a corporal belonging to Company B, 2d Infantry, were killed by the Indians on the 12th inst. about four miles from Fort White. The bodies were afterwards found horribly mutilated.

On the 14th inst. five dragoons under a sergeant in passing from Pilotka to Camp King were fired upon near Fort Russell by a band of Indians, numbering from twelve to twenty warriors. Two of the soldiers were wounded, and one of them, as we understand, was shot in the thigh and fell from his horse. He was assisted by his companions to remount and effected his escape with the rest.

Colonel Harney has not been deterred by the heat and rains and insects of the summer from seeking the Indians and destroying if possible the grain crop before it shall have been gathered and taken away. He is again in the field with a command of Dragoons, scouring the country between Fort Mellon and New Smyrna. Courage and untiring energy as this must one day go far to achieve a repose for Florida.

From the News.

Fort Downing, which had been abandoned on account of its unhealthiness, was burned, since the 3d inst., by Indians. Several new rafts were seen on the Suwannee by the steamer Okeechobee.

On Saturday last a stick, to which was attached a hair like substance, and a small bundle of 15 sticks, was found on the ground where the last murders on the Picolata road took place. The solution of this is said to be, the sticks indicate 15 killed, and the hair like appendage, that they were scalped.

The detachments of volunteers which left on Tuesday, 14th inst. for the South, proceeded as far as Spring Garden, and returned on Friday night without having seen any of the enemy.

Gen. Armistead, it is understood, will make his headquarters, during the summer at the new depot of Pilotka. The change of the old location is considered most favorable, both as regards economy and the facility of transportation.

From the *Newark Daily Advertiser*.

There are doubtless many old manuscripts existing among the family records of our country, which, if brought to light, might serve to illustrate its history, and which should at least be preserved in some public historical collection, like those which have been so well commenced in New York and at Worcester. We have now before us a manuscript of this description, politely loaned to us by a descendant of the writer, being the “Journal of a Tour from the American Garrison of Fort Rensselaer in Canajoharie, on the Mohawk river, to the British Garrison of Oswego as Flag to announce a cessation of hostilities on the frontiers of New York: commenced on Friday 18th April 1783, By Alexander Thompson, Lieut. 2d Artillery, U. S. Army.” The incidents of this journey through an almost trackless wilderness, constantly exposed to attack from savages, are recorded with scrupulous care, and the Journal is also interesting as an exhibition of the severe trials and unrequited services of the noble men of our heroic age.

The writer was the father of the lamented Colonel Alex. R. Thompson, of the U. S. Army, who was among the early victims of the present luckless Florida war. He entered the army of the revolution as a lieutenant in Col. Lamb's artillery, in May, 1779, at the age of 20. After the close of the war he received from President Washington a captain's commission in the regiment of artillerists and engineers, and was subsequently stationed at Detroit, Niagara, and West Point, and died at the last mentioned place in 1809, where a branch of his family now resides.

AN INTERESTING EXPERIMENT.—We have already alluded to the discovery of a new principle of discharging fire arms. On Wednesday last it was tested with a new brass six pounder, and in the presence of three commissioners, specially appointed by the authorities at Washington. The two important points so long sought by commanders of this and other countries—namely, the stoppage of the vent at the time of the discharge, so as to prevent the escape of smoke; and remarkable rapidity of explosion, were fully realized. The action of the lock, and the discharge at the muzzle, were simultaneous.

We learn that the steel point became so heated by the burning of the powder in the chamber, as to cause it to expand. A slight difficulty in extracting it was thus created. By reducing it, we are assured this difficulty will be obviated. In other respects the experiment was fully successful. It is believed that the plan will soon supersede all others. It will not only take the place of flint locks in the army, and the percussion lock, as used in sporting guns, but that it will also be employed in heavy artillery. Should this view be fully realized, the inventor, Mr. Shaw, cannot but reap a large share of reputation, as well as pecuniary profit.—*Pennsylvania Inquirer*.

COMMODORE ELLIOTT.—Having ascertained with precision the points involved in the extraordinary decision of the court martial recently held for the trial of Commodore Elliott, we hasten to communicate them to those of our readers who feel an interest in the subject. Without embarrassing the statement by adhering to the mere formalities of the legal documents, it is believed that the real character and extent of the finding of the court will be best understood generally, by a reference to the persons or subject matter which particularly marked each charge:

The Court have found Commodore Elliott

NOT GUILTY

1. Of the alleged improper treatment of Lieutenant Charles G. Hunter.
2. Of the alleged improper treatment of Chaplain Thomas R. Lambert.
3. Of the alleged abandonment of Passed Midshipman Charles C. Barton, after he was wounded, at Smyrna.
4. Of witnessing a mutiny by not doing his utmost to suppress it.
5. Of wasting public stores.

GUILTY

1. Of ordering Passed Midshipman Barton, when wounded, to be taken from the Constitution to the Shark.
2. Of the various allegations founded on the acceptance of a service of plate from his crew.
3. Of the various allegations founded on his having imported twenty-three animals on board the Constitution.
4. Of inflicting twenty-four instead of twelve lashes upon three of his crew.
5. Of expending the public stores for his private purposes.—*Pennsylvanian*.

From the Baltimore American, July 29.

NAVAL COURT MARTIAL.—A court martial composed of six naval officers, will convene at the City Hotel this morning at 10 o'clock, to proceed with the trial of Passed Midshipman WILLIAM S. RINGGOLD, on charges which have not yet been made public. It will be an open court, and accessible to all persons. The organization is as follows:

Commodore HENRY E. BALLARD, *President*.

Members of the Court—Captains CHARLES W. MORGAN, DAVID GEISINGER; Commander A. FITZHUGH; Lieuts. JOHN S. NICHOLAS, WM. M. GLENDY.

Judge Advocate—JOHN NELSON, Esq.

THE COURT MARTIAL.—The members of the Naval Court Martial on the case of Passed Midshipman RINGGOLD, assembled yesterday, and, in consequence of some arrangement, adjourned immediately, without action, and, we believe, *sine die*.

The charges against the officer did not transpire in form; therefore they do not fall under our notice. Mr. Ringgold has been twelve years in the service, and had tendered his resignation prior to the convention of the Court.—*Ibid*, July 30.

NAVAL COURT MARTIAL.—A court martial, composed of the following officers, is in session on board the United States ship Delaware, at this station, engaged in the trial of Midshipman Charles Weston.

Commodore WARRINGTON, *President*.

Members—Captain JESSE WILKINSON; Commanders PAGE and STRIBLING; Lieuts. SAUNDERS, WM. M. ARMSTRONG, and FARRAGUT.

Judge Advocate—HENRY S. ALLMAND, Esq.

Counsel for the accused—JOHN S. MILLSON, Esq.—*Norfolk Herald*, July 31.

FLOATING DRY DOCK.—A floating dry dock of sufficient capacity for ships of five hundred tons, has been lately built at Fort Montgomery. It is intended for the use of this port, and will, in the course of a

few days, be located at the foot of Rector street, North river. It is constructed, we are informed, on an entirely new principle. The vessel in it is not to be lifted out of the water, but is to be sustained, while the water is to be discharged from around it. This operation will be performed in something like half an hour. This dock was built under the superintendence of the gentleman for whom it was constructed, Mr. John S. Gilbert.

We copy the above from the New York Commercial Advertiser. The floating dry dock is not new to us. We saw a model of one designed by Commodore James Barron, of the U. S. navy, many years ago. We thought it was just the thing to answer the three prime requisitions: economy, despatch and safety; but the commerce of our port did not seem, at the time, to promise a remuneration of the expense that might be called for by a trial of the experiment; and no one here had enterprise enough to take it up. We recollect that our impression at the time was that it might be used with great advantage by the navy, for the smaller classes of vessels, at places where a permanent stone dock was inexpedient.—*Norfolk Herald*, July 29.

Major Gen. Scott came up from the Falls yesterday morning. We understand he will review the troops at the Barracks to-morrow.—*Buffalo Commercial Advertiser*.

A large party, consisting of Gen. Scott, Col. Bankhead and staff, a number of ladies, and the splendid band of the 2d regiment, embarked this morning on board the Illinois, to visit the principal military posts of the upper lakes.—*Ibid*, July 22.

Military Intelligence.

Medical Staff.—Ast. Surgeon R Southgate, ordered to Dearbornville Arsenal, Michigan, for duty. Resignations accepted of Assistant Surgeon Ellis Hughes, July 31, and Assistant Surgeon M. C. Leavenworth, to take effect September 30.

Corps of Engineers.—Leave of absence for 4 months, to Captain C H Bigelow, with permission to leave the United States.

Topographical Engineers.—Leave until May 1, 1841, to Capt. G W Hughes, with permission to visit Europe.

1st Dragoons.—Sick leave for six months to Lieut. L P Davidson, with permission to leave the United States. Leave to Lieut. A R Johnston, extended to Oct. 31. Major Wharton, with troops A C and D, left Fort Gibson, June 8, to return to Fort Leavenworth, the proper station of these troops—their presence being considered no longer necessary at Fort Gibson by Gen. Arbuckle.

3d Artillery.—Leave to Captain H Garner, extended to October 15.

3d Infantry.—Captain N C Macrae, ordered to New York, to report for duty on recruiting service. Company D, commanded by Lieut. Currier, left Fort Smith on the 1st and arrived at Fort Jesup on the 10th July; Lieutenant C. returned to Fort Smith, the command of the company being given to Lieutenant Peyton.

6th Infantry.—Leave for two months to Captain J D. Searight. Lieutenant L A Armistead, ordered to report to the Superintendent of recruiting service, for duty with the recruits assembled in the harbor of New York for instruction.

Appointment.—Henry M Rice, Sutler to Camp Atkinson, the new post on Turkey river, Iowa

DEATHS.

In Norfolk, Va., on the 29th ult., aged 10 months and 16 days, MARY, daughter of Lieut. SAMUEL BARRON, U. S. navy, and IMGEN his wife.

At Fort Brady, E. F., on the 5th July, MARY, aged 8 months and 5 days, daughter of Captain J. R. SMITH, 2d infantry, U. S. A.

NAVY.**ORDERS.**

July 24—Purser A. J. Watson, navy yard, Washington.

27—P. Mid. D. Ross Crawford, depot of charts, &c.
28—Lieut. L. Stoddard, leave two months, having returned from brig Consort, sick.

P. Mid. C. F. M. Spotswood, order to steamer Fulton revoked, and leave three months.

29—Lieut. A. E. Downes, rec'g ship, Boston.

Chaplain T. R. Lambert, do. do.

30—Lt. Com'g. C. H. Bell, Lieuts. J. F. Schenck, and J. P. McKinstry, Asst. Surgeon R. T. Barry, Purser T. B. Nalle, P. Mid. J. R. M. Mullany, Mid. G. E. West, W. T. Spicer, and J. Ladd, detached from brig Dolphin, with leave for two months.

Lt. Com'g. J. S. Paine, Lieut. W. P. Griffin, Asst. Surgeon E. J. Rutter, P. Mid. A. S. Whittier, W. R. Gardner, Mid. E. A. Barnett and E. C. Stiles, det'd from schooner Grampus, with leave for two months.

Comm'r. J. Tattall, detached from special duty under Captain Perry.

31—Commander H. Paulding, navy yard, New York, vice S. H. Stringham, detached.

Commander C. K. Stribling, Rendezvous, Norfolk, vice T. T. Webb, detached.

Lieut. E. Byrne, Rendezvous, Philadelphia, vice R. Ritchie, detached.

Lieut. John Pope, navy yard, Boston, vice W. S. Walker, detached.

Lieut. C. H. Davis, Ordinary, Boston.

Surgeon A. G. Gambrill, Rendezvous, Boston, vice R. J. Dodd, detached.

Surgeon Waters Smith, Rendezvous, New York.

Surgeon Wm. Whelan, navy yard, Philadelphia, vice W. P. C. Barton, detached.

Purser D. Walker, navy yard, Pensacola.

Purser E. Fitzgerald, detached from receiving ship, Norfolk.

Lieuts. J. Bubier and H. Bruce, det'd from Boston station.

August 1—Captain R. F. Stockton, furlough two years.

Lieut. J. L. Henderson, detached from Rendezvous, Norfolk.

P. Mid. Levin Handy, rec'g vessel, Baltimore.

MARINE CORPS.

The only changes made during the month of July are leaves of absence to a few officers:

July 7—2d Lieut. R. D. Taylor, until Sept. 1.

9—Capt. A. N. Brevoort, extended for 30 days.

15—2d Lieut. J. W. Curtis, extended until September 15.

29—2d Lieut. W. B. Slack, renewed for 30 days.

Naval Intelligence.**U. S. VESSELS OF WAR REPORTED.**

MEDITERRANEAN SQUADRON.—Ship-of-the-line Ohio, Commo. Hull, at Toulon, June 4. The small pox had broken out on board, while at that place.

WEST INDIA SQUADRON.—The frigate Macedonian, Captain Lawrence Rousseau, bearing the broad pennant of Commo. W. B. Shubrick, and sloops of war Erie, Captain W. V. Taylor, and Levant, Captain Joseph Smoot, all from Pensacola, arrived at Boston, on Friday, July 31. The Macedonian fired a salute about 2 P. M. Officers and crews all well. After reaching the inner harbor a man fell into the water, from the foremast of the Erie, striking the foreyard, and catching hold of the rigging below, but losing his hold. His name was William Davis, of Boston, about 22 or 23 years old; said to be one of the best seamen in the ship. He was not seen to rise after he struck the water. —Daily Advertiser.

NAVY BEEF AND PORK, FOR 1841.

NAVY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE, July 24, 1840.

SEALED OFFERS, endorsed "Offers for Beef" or "Offers for Pork," as the case may be, will be received at this office until 3 o'clock, P. M. of the 31st day of August next, for furnishing and delivering, free of all cost and charge to the United States, two thousand six hundred barrels (2,600 bbls.) of Navy Beef, and two thousand one hundred barrels (2,100 bbls.) of Navy Pork, each barrel to contain two hundred pounds nett weight of beef or pork.

Seven hundred barrels (700 bbls.) of the Pork to be delivered at the Navy Yard, Charlestown, Massachusetts.

Two thousand barrels (2,000 bbls.) of the Beef, and nine hundred barrels (900 bbls.) of the Pork, to be delivered at the Navy Yard, Brooklyn, New York.

And six hundred barrels (600 bbls.) of the Beef, and five hundred barrels (500 bbls.) of the Pork, to be delivered at the Navy Yard, Gosport, Virginia.

All of the said Beef and Pork to be delivered between the 15th March and the 25th May, 1841, unless earlier deliveries should be authorized by the Navy Commissioners.

The beef must be packed from well-fattened cattle, weighing not less than five hundred pounds nett weight each. The legs and leg rands of the hind quarters, and the shins and shoulder clods, and at least eight pounds from the neck end of each fore-quarter, or the parts marked Nos. 1, 2 and 3, on the drawing or delineation of the fore and hind quarters of an ox, which will be attached to and form a part of the contract, must be wholly excluded from each barrel, and the remainder of the carcass must be cut in pieces of not less than eight pounds each.

The Pork must be packed from corn-fed, well-fattened hogs, weighing not less than two hundred pounds each, excluding the heads, joles, necks, shoulders, hams, legs, feet, and lard—and all refuse pieces—and must be cut in pieces weighing not less than six pounds each.

Both the Beef and Pork must be slaughtered between the 1st November next and the periods of delivery, and must be salted with at least one bushel of coarse Turk's Island, Isle of May, or St. Ubes salt, and with five ounces of pure pulverized saltpetre to each barrel, exclusive of a pickle, to be made from fresh water, as strong as salt can make it.

The barrels to be made of the best seasoned heart of white oak or white ash staves and heading, not less than three-fourths of an inch thick; to be hooped at least three-fourths over with the best white oak or hickory hoops, except the cross hoop, which must be of iron, at least one inch wide, and not less than the denomination No. 17; all at the expense of the respective contractors. Each barrel must be branded on its head "Navy Beef," or "Navy Pork," as the case may be, with contractor's name, and the year when packed.

The Beef and the Pork will be inspected by the inspecting officers at the respective Navy Yards aforesaid, and by some "sworn inspectors of all provisions," who will be selected by the respective commanding officers; but their charges for such inspection must be paid by the respective contractors, who must likewise have the barrels put in good shipping order, to the satisfaction of the commandants of the respective Navy Yards aforesaid, after the inspections, and at their own expense.

Bidders must specify their prices separately and distinctly, in separate offers for the Beef and for the Pork, and for each of the places of delivery, covering all expenses and charges.

Letters from persons binding themselves to become sureties, if the offers are accepted, and other letters from some navy agent, commandant at a navy yard, or other person well known to the Department, must accompany the offers of each person, and state the belief of the writer that the person offering to contract is practically acquainted by experience with the best mode of curing and packing beef and pork, and has the ability to perform his contract in a satisfactory manner, and that his sureties have also the ability, in case of failure on the part of the contractor, to pay the amount of their bonds.

The Board of Navy Commissioners reserve to themselves the right to reject all offers from persons who have heretofore failed to fulfil their contracts, or who do not forward satisfactory letters showing their ability, and the ability of their sureties, to complete the contracts.

Bonds in one-third the amount of the respective contracts will be required, and ten per centum in addition will be withheld from the amount of each payment to be made, as collateral security for the due and faithful performance of their respective contracts, which will, on no account, be paid until the contracts are complied with in all respects—and is to be forfeited to the use and benefit of the United States in the event of failures to complete the deliveries within the prescribed periods. And in case of failure on the part of the contractors to deliver the aforesaid beef and pork within the times specified, the Navy Commissioners to have the right to direct purchases to be made to supply the deficiencies, and any excess of cost to be charged to, and paid by, the contractors. Payment will be made by the United States (excepting the ten per centum to be withheld until the completion of the contracts as before stated) within thirty days after the said beef and pork shall have been inspected and received, and bills for the same shall be presented to the navy agents, respectively, duly approved by the commandants of the respective navy yards, according to the terms of the contracts.

The parts of the beef to be excluded from the barrel will be particularly designated in the engravings to be attached to the contracts. Persons interested can obtain them on application at this office. July 30—td

OFFICE OF COMMISSARY GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE,
Washington, July 1st, 1840.

SEPARATE proposals will be received at this office until the first day of October next, for the delivery of provisions in bulk for the use of the troops of the United States, upon inspection, as follows:

At New Orleans.

- 100 barrels of Pork
- 200 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 90 bushels of new white field Beans
- 1,500 pounds of good hard Soap
- 40 bushels of good clean dry Salt

At the public landing, six miles from Fort Towson mouth of the Chienmichi.

- 400 barrels of Pork
- 800 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 360 bushels of new white field Beans
- 6,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 160 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered in all the month of April, 1841, and to leave Natchitoches by the 20th February, 1841.

At Fort Smith, Arkansas.

- 1,000 barrels of Pork
- 2,000 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 900 bushels of new white field Beans
- 15,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 400 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered in all the month of May, 1841.

At St. Louis, or Jefferson Barracks, Missouri.

- 500 barrels of Pork
- 1,000 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 450 bushels of new white field Beans
- 7,500 pounds of good hard Soap
- 200 bushels of good clean dry Salt

At Fort Crawford, Prairie du Chien, Mississippi river.

- 200 barrels of Pork
- 400 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 180 bushels of new white field Beans
- 3,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 2,000 pounds of good hard tallow Candles
- 80 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered by the 1st of June, 1841.

At Fort Snelling, St. Peters.

- 400 barrels of Pork
- 800 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 360 bushels of new white field Beans
- 6,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 6,000 pounds of good hard tallow Candles
- 160 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered by the 15th of June, 1841.

At Fort Winnebago, on Fox river, at the portage of Fox and Wisconsin rivers.

- 300 barrels of Pork
- 600 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 270 bushels of new white field Beans
- 4,500 pounds of good hard Soap
- 8,000 pounds of good hard tallow Candles
- 120 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered by the first of June, 1841.

At Fort Howard, Green Bay

- 200 barrels of Pork
- 400 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 180 bushels of new white Beans
- 3,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 2,000 pounds of good hard tallow Candles
- 80 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered by the first of June, 1841.

At Fort Brady, Sault de Ste. Marie.

- 100 barrels of Pork
- 200 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 90 bushels of new white field Beans
- 1,500 pounds of good hard Soap
- 1,000 pounds of good hard tallow Candles
- 40 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered by the first of June, 1841.

At Hancock Barracks, Houlton, Maine.

- 400 barrels of Pork
- 800 barrels of fresh superfine flour
- 360 bushels of new white field Beans
- 6,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 4,000 pounds of good hard tallow Candles
- 160 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered in December, 1840, and January and February, 1841.

At New York.

- 400 barrels of Pork
- 800 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 360 bushels of new white field Beans
- 6,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 160 bushels of good clean dry Salt

At Baltimore.

- 200 barrels of Pork
- 400 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 180 bushels of new white field Beans
- 6,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 60 bushels of good clean dry Salt

NOTE.—All bidders are requested to extend the amount of their bids for each article, and exhibit the total amount of each bid.

The periods and quantities of each delivery at those posts where they are not specified, will be one-fourth 1st June, 1st September, 1st December, 1841, and 1st March, 1842.

The hogs of which the pork is packed, to be fattened on corn, and each hog to weigh not less than two hundred pounds, and consist of one hog to each barrel, excluding the feet, legs, ears and snout. Side pieces may be substituted for the hams. The Pork is to be first salted with Turks Island salt, and then carefully packed with the same article, in pieces not exceeding ten pounds each. When the packing has been completed, the contractor must furnish to this office a certificate from the packer, that the Pork has been so salted and packed. The Pork to be contained in seasoned heart of white oak or white ash barrels, full hooped; the Beans in water-tight barrels, and the Soap and Candles in strong boxes of convenient size for transportation. Salt will only be received by measurement of thirty-two quarts to the bushel. The Candles to have cotton wicks. The provisions for Prairie du Chien and St. Peters, must pass St. Louis for their ultimate destination, by the 15th of April, 1841. A failure in this particular will be considered a breach of contract, and the Department will be authorized to purchase to supply these posts.

The provisions will be inspected at the time and place of delivery, and all expenses to be paid by contractors until they are deposited at such store-houses as may be designated by the agents of the Department.

The Commissary General reserves the privilege of increasing or diminishing the quantities, or of dispensing with one or more articles, at any time before entering into contract, and also of increasing or reducing the quantities of each delivery one-third, subsequent to contract, on giving sixty days previous notice.

Bidders, not heretofore contractors, are required to accompany their proposals with evidence of their ability, together with the names of their sureties, whose responsibility must be certified by the District Attorney, or by some person well known to the Government, otherwise their proposals will not be acted on.

Advances cannot be made in any case; and evidence of inspection and full delivery will be required at this office before requisition will be made upon the Treasury for payment, which will be effected in such public money as may be convenient to the points of delivery, the places of purchase, or the residence of the contractors.

No drafts on this office will be accepted or paid under any circumstances.

Each proposal will be sealed in a separate envelope, and marked "Proposals for furnishing Army Subsistence."

GEO. GIBSON, C. G. S.

July 9—1 Sept. 20

ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE.

The irregular appearance of the Army and Navy Chronicle has been the most serious impediment to its success. That irregularity can be obviated for the future by a very simple plan, which is easy of accomplishment and will require but little exertion on the part of its friends:

The editor has on hand one hundred complete sets for the years 1836, 7, 8, and 9, (excepting the month of October, 1839, not yet printed,) which he offers at *half price*, or ten dollars for the four years. If these can be disposed of, it will produce the sum of one thousand dollars, which with current subscriptions will ensure the future punctual appearance of the Chronicle.

There are surely one hundred officers in the army and navy, without counting upon individuals out of the service, public libraries and other institutions, who would be glad to possess the only authentic and permanent record of military and naval events published in this country.

If there be any who wish to secure a set, but whose stations are so remote or uncertain that they cannot conveniently receive and take care of it, they can remit the money, and the set will be laid aside, subject to order at any moment.

Not a week elapses without applications for missing numbers to complete files; and many subscribers have declared that they would not part with theirs on any terms, if they could not be replaced.

July 16

MILITARY AND NAVAL ORNAMENTS.

B. DELAPIERRE, Importer and Manufacturer of Military and Naval Ornaments, and embroiderer in gold and silver; 90 Fulton street, New York, begs leave to tender his services to the Officers of the Army and Navy, in the line of his profession. Epaulettes, and other ornaments, are there to be had of the best kind, and most substantial workmanship.

B. D. has imported from the most celebrated military clothing establishments in London, a small lot of the identical blue Silk Velvet, used in the British service for the corps of Topographical Engineers, a sample of which is deposited in the clothing-bureau at Washington, and has been approved of by the chief of the corps.

May 21—45